

Ponomarev on International Workers Solidarity

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The impact of the seven-year plan on the international development will develop along the following main lines:

The power of the USSR and of the entire socialist camp--the stronghold of the forces of peace and social progress all over the globe--will further increase. The force of attraction of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, of the idea of communism, will rise at an unprecedented rate. The opportunities for eliminating world wars from the life of mankind will expand.

The growth in the power of the socialist camp will evoke a new upswing of the national liberation movement in colonial and dependent countries and promote the consolidation of the positions of the states which have won national independence. The new victories of the socialist world system will create even more favorable conditions for increasing the authority of communist and workers parties and strengthening their international unity. The great ideas of the seven-year plan inspire all progressive mankind. The workers of the people's democracies consider the Soviet seven-year plan as their tomorrow and are toiling enthusiastically to bring this tomorrow nearer. The proletariat in the capitalist countries, realizing the great benefits received by the Soviet working people, will intensify the struggle for their own vital interests and rights.

The seven-year plan will exert an irresistible influence on the peasantry in the capitalist countries. Suffering from poverty, social stratification, and agrarian overpopulation, the peasants in the capitalist countries fix their eyes on our country, where the village toilers were freed long ago from the plagues of capitalism, and where immense scope is given to the expansion of agricultural production.

However, it would be a mistake to assume that social changes will take place spontaneously, without a persistent class struggle. Quite to the contrary, the emerging conditions favorable for the transition to socialism call for the active intervention of the progressive forces of the workers movement to turn these opportunities into facts. The role of the Marxist-Leninist parties, the conscious and organized vanguards of the workers class, will grow still more in these times. Through their active intervention the parties contribute enormously to winning over the people of their countries to the side of socialism.

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The remarkable successes of the Soviet Union, of all countries of the Socialist camp, have an enormous impact on the development of the peoples of the East, who have freed themselves of the colonial yoke and embarked on the road of independent historical creation. Struggling for the consolidation of their freedom and independence, the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America always have faithful and selfless friends in the USSR and in the socialist camp. The socialist camp assists those peoples who have freed themselves of the colonial yoke to consolidate the independence, of their countries and to develop a national industry.

The imperialist circles and their agents in underdeveloped countries attempt to present the growth of the power of the socialist states as a threat to the peoples of the East and thus to intimidate the governments of these countries. This gross slander cannot do away with the truth, however. The peoples of the liberated countries know from their own experience that the socialist countries offer their assistance without any military or political conditions. Enterprises such as the Bhilai metallurgical plant, built by the Indian Government with the aid of the Soviet Union, are obvious results of this assistance. Not only does the increase in the economic power of the socialist camp not threaten underdeveloped countries but on the contrary it opens up new horizons before them.

It is known that the peoples of the liberated countries are presently at a crossroads in history. They are now faced with the full weight of the problem of deciding what roads to follow. Different views and different trends concerning this problem have become manifest. (1) As long as the struggle for the liberation from imperialism was waged, all strata and social forces of the countries of the East acted within a single national front. However, once the main problem affecting the whole nation--to conquer political independence--was solved, new processes began to develop gradually in the internal life of the liberated countries. Social problems started to move to the forefront, and class heterogeneity of the national liberation movement began to have an impact. (The different classes and social strata now defend their interests, and they hold different views on the road of the further development of their country. ||| ✱

The communist parties of the East, as well as those in all other countries, are the most steadfast fighters against colonialism, for national independence and for social progress. They stood in the first ranks of the fighters in the national liberation movement and made great sacrifices. (2)

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The countries which have won national independence want to proceed on roads of their own, bypassing the capitalist stage of development, so as to end the colonialist oppression and embark on building the society on new foundations. (4)

Naturally the successes of the USSR, the CPR, and of all countries of socialism, their fraternal aid to the underdeveloped countries, their peace-loving foreign policy, and their ideology of the equality of rights and of fraternity will exert an enormous influence on what road the peoples of the East choose.

The 21st CPSU congress has demonstrated clearly the cohesion of the international communist movement, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Delegations of 72 fraternal parties attended the congress. Such a large number of representatives of Marxist-Leninist parties has never before convened in history. In their speeches the leaders of the fraternal parties gave remarkable pictures of the growth and consolidation of the communist movement.

The communist movement is a profoundly international movement. All communist and workers parties are independent and equal. Each of them bears responsibility before the workers class, before its country's toilers, before the entire international communist and workers movement. They have a common aim--the liberation of working humanity--and a common ideology, Marxism-Leninism. (5)

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